

CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD
CITY HALL CONFERENCE ROOM
100 NORTH ANDREWS AVENUE – 8th Floor
FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA 33301
November 23, 2015 - 6:30 PM

Cumulative Attendance 1/2015 through 12/2015					
	MEMBERS	APPT BY	ATTENDANCE	PRESENT	ABSENT
1.	Alena Alberani, Chair	II	P	9	2
2.	Jason Liechty, Vice Chair	IV	P	10	1
3.	Lawrence Clark	I	P	9	0
4.	Lance Cutrer	I	A	6	3
5.	Jeffrey Huber	M	P	7	3
6.	Jim Moyer	III	A	10	1
7.	Chad Scott	II	P	9	1
8.	Mate Thitisawat	C	A	7	4
9.	Enrique Vadiveloo	IV	P	9	2
10.	Cheryl Whitfield	III	P	10	1
11.	Vacant	M	--	--	--

Staff Present

Sustainability Division of Public Works

Glen Hadwen, Sustainability Manager

Audrey Núñez Gough, Sustainability Specialist, Staff Liaison

Guests Present

Sheila Franklin, Our Central Park

Call of Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Chair Alberani at 6:30 p.m. The roll was called, and it was determined a quorum was present. Mr. Scott arrived at 6:34 p.m.

Approval of the Meeting Minutes

The October minutes were introduced. A motion was made to approve the minutes by Mr. Clark and seconded by Mr. Vadiveloo and passed on consensus.

Staff Liaison Report

Ms. Núñez Gough gave an overview on the following items:

- Reminder that the December meeting will be on the 14th at 101 NE 3rd Avenue, Suite 1400, Sustainability Lab, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301
- Status of the Beach Wrack Pilot Project

Ms. Núñez Gough reported that the Beach Business Improvement District (BID) Committee and the Beach Redevelopment Board (BRAB's) communications were discussed by the City Commission at various meetings and the Commission decided to terminate the Beach Wrack Pilot Project. As a result, the City will not be moving forward with the project.

Chair Alberani and Vice Chair Liechty stated that they are disappointed. Chair Alberani mentioned that the project's area was not the selected one, so that causes more frustration as this project was not given an opportunity to deliver. Mr. Huber indicated that he is also disappointed and mentioned that this project had the opportunity to showcase a more natural environment. Mr. Clark specified that this project could have been an educational opportunity for others.

Mr. Huber inquired about putting signage on the beach that could indicate about the ecology. Chair Alberani stated that she was not sure about the cost of signage and who would be responsible for it, but it could be similar to the signage about sea turtle nesting and coral reefs. Mr. Hadwen indicated that he was going to confirm with the Parks and Recreation Department and get back to the Board.

- Drilling in the Everglades

The Drilling in the Everglades communication was on the November 17, 2015 City Commission agenda and the City Commission stated that this issue is not within the City's jurisdiction and does not border Fort Lauderdale. Therefore no official resolution can be made. However, the Mayor indicated that he can write a personal letter opposing drilling in the Everglades.

Mr. Clark stated that this issue impacts our water supply. He wants the Board to encourage the Mayor to send a letter.

Chair Alberani said that they can draft and vote on a communication to be sent to the Mayor. Mr. Hadwen clarified and said that when the Board sends a communication to the City Commission is because the Board wants an official action to be taken. Mr. Hadwen recommended that they could be more successful if the Board reaches out to the Mayor individually.

Mr. Clark indicated that the Mayor said that if the Board wanted him to send a letter he could do it considering that the majority of municipalities who have officially opposed drilling in the Everglades do not border the area.

- Food Forest

The Food Forest communication will be on the December 15, 2015 City Commission conference meeting. Mr. Hadwen mentioned that if a Board member is present at the meeting, staff can let the Clerk's Office know, so they notify the Mayor. Ms. Whitfield said that she will be at that City Commission conference meeting.

Presentations

Clothing Recycling Initiative {Moyer}

Ms. Núñez Gough informed the Board that Mr. Moyer could not attend this meeting as the Florida Panthers were dedicating that night's game to the Salvation Army, so Mr. Moyer had to attend the game.

The Board decided to defer Mr. Moyer's presentation until the December 2015 meeting so he can do the presentation along with Mr. Clark's presentation on Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE).

Ms. Whitfield stated that the priorities of the League of Cities speak of local controls. The Trans-Pacific Partnership (TTP) text has been released for public comments for ninety (90) days. It reviews several controls that Cities have, and denotes that a third-party entity could have the power to override local controls in issues such as food safety, food labeling, etc. She would like to do a presentation during the December 2015 meeting regarding how the TTP affects local controls.

The Board agreed for Ms. Whitfield to present at the next meeting.

Old Business

- Smoke-free beach voluntary signage

Mr. Clark mentioned that Pompano Beach staff and City Commissioners were enthusiastic about this program and there was no objection from the tourism industry in that City, given that it is a strictly voluntary initiative. Chair Alberani inquired if the beaches have designated areas for ashtrays and Mr. Clark clarified that when you enter the beach, the sign says, "Please do not smoke on the beach."

Ms. Whitfield asked if businesses that front the beach were opposed to the signs and Mr. Clark responded that he doesn't believe there was opposition because it is a voluntary program.

Mr. Scott asked if there had been a communication about this in the past and Mr. Hadwen explained that there was a communication in November 2014 about banning smoking, but it was not voluntary. Hence, the City Commission's response was that due to state law they are prohibited from banning smoking.

Chair Alberani explained that the American Lung Association previously presented to the Board in hopes of getting their support in designating smoke-free beaches which will also decrease waste and improve air quality. However, this did not advance due to preemption. The idea was for the City to incorporate something positive and voluntary, not calling for a ban or prohibiting anything.

Mr. Scott suggested that if the Board does a communication they can include the costs associated with this from Pompano Beach. Mr. Clark agreed to do some research on how this type of signage has impacted Pompano Beach's visitors and tourism numbers and the costs incurred to install the signs. This research will help the Board draft a communication to the City Commission regarding smoke-free beach voluntary signage during the next meeting.

Mr. Vadiveloo asked if there is an award that the Board can connect to not smoking and/or clean beaches or air. The Board agreed to do some research about awards or health related initiatives that could be used at the next meeting when drafting the communication. The Board is interested in knowing if there is a City of Fort Lauderdale awards' database that they can review and see if there is anything related to smoking or health initiatives that the Board can use and connect it to the communication and to the Sustainability Action Plan (SAP). Mr. Hadwen responded that he believes someone in Public Affairs Office applies to these awards and might keep track of them, but staff can ask that office about this.

Chair Alberani praised this approach of looking into something positive that the City could receive recognition for or be awarded for by supporting an initiative such as voluntary smoke-free beach signage.

Proposed Communication

- Our Central Park Initiative {Scott}

The Board discussed a Draft Communication to City Commission on Our Central Park Initiative and, after discussion, agreed upon the following language:

The Sustainability Advisory Board (SAB) provides the following Communication to the City Commission:

As an All-America City, the City of Fort Lauderdale, its residents and visitors treasure the City's open space and recreational lands, particularly in its urban core, where parks and lands promised as parks have been an inducement to live and invest and add tremendously to the economic/environmental sustainability and livability/health of our city.

This communication pertains to the parcel of property at 301 North Andrews Avenue with Broward County Property Appraiser's ID# 5042 10 15 0010 lying between North Andrews Avenue and N.W. 1st Avenue, and N.W. Second Street and N.W. Fourth Street in the City of Fort Lauderdale, and described legally as:

F. A. CHAPMAN RESUBDIVISION OF PT OF LOTS OF F. R. OLIVER SUBDIVISION LOT 1

BLOCK 3 FORT LAUDERDALE 3-188 D LOT 1 TO 26 & LOT 2 E OF NW 1ST AVENUE OF BLOCK 3 OF FORT LAUDERDALE B-40 & LOTS 1 TO 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23 & 25 OF F. R. OLIVER SUBDIVISION OF LOT 1 BLOCK 3 FORT LAUDERDALE 1-34 D, LESS R/W FOR NORTH ANDREWS AVENUE PER MISC MAP 3/45.

The City of Fort Lauderdale adopted the current Downtown Master Plan on November 18, 2003, calling for "the creation of new parks to sustain the anticipated population growth" and proposing in Figure 3.47 the city-owned land between North Andrews Avenue and N.W. 1 Avenue, and N.W. Second Street and N.W. Fourth Street, as a new major community park.

In an effort to protect open space and recreational land within the City's urban core and provide the aforementioned property with the advantages defined within law and the City Charter of being a park, the Sustainability Advisory Board urges the Commission to designate the aforementioned property as "P" on the Official Zoning Map of the City of Fort Lauderdale and as defined in the City of Fort Lauderdale's Unified Land Development Regulations (ULDR), ensuring this land will be a park of the City.

The Board has determined that our recommendation is consistent with the following goal and objectives of the City's Strategic Plan, Press Play Fort Lauderdale 2018:

- *Goal 3: Be a community that finds opportunities and leverages partnerships to create unique, inviting, and connected gathering places that highlight our beaches, waterways, urban areas, and parks*
 - *Objective 2: Enhance the City's identity and appearance through well-maintained green space, parks, major corridors, gateways and medians*
 - *Objective 4: Cultivate our urban forest*

In addition, this recommendation is also aligned with the Goals, Objectives, and Actions of the Sustainability Action Plan (SAP), Built and Natural Environment:

- *Goal 2: Preserve and Expand Natural Spaces.*
 - *Objective 2: Preserve and expand coastal habitats.*
 - *Action 2.1.1: Provide more green space in residential development.*

A motion made by Mr. Scott, seconded by Mr. Huber to advance the above Communication to the City Commission. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business

- Drilling in the Everglades {Clark}

The SAB listened to the City Commission discussion about Drilling in the Everglades on November 17, 2015. Afterwards, the Board agreed that they want to request that the Mayor writes a letter supporting the SAB's position opposing drilling in the Everglades. The Board discussed a Draft Communication to the Mayor and the City Commissioners regarding Drilling in the Everglades. After discussion, the Board agreed upon a Communication with the following language:

Dear Mayor:

Thank you for your offer to write a letter supporting the Sustainability Advisory Board's (SAB) position opposing drilling in the Everglades. We request that you and your colleagues write a personal letter or public statement. We feel very strongly that the City's water supply could be adversely impacted due to potential damage to the Biscayne Aquifer from drilling operations.

*Respectfully,
Sustainability Advisory Board (SAB)*

A motion made by Mr. Clark, seconded by Mr. Vadiveloo to advance the above Communication to the City Commission. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Whitfield asked if the concern about drilling in the Everglades is because people need cheaper oil or is it because it is on top of a water fill. She gave an example of the Bush family buying some acres of land located above the Guarani Aquifer, who some believe that it was done to keep the oil on the ground and control water. Mr. Clark mentioned that water availability and access have always been an issue.

Comments

- Mr. Hadwen returned from San Pedro de Marcoris in Dominican Republic as part of an exchange from the International City/County Management Association (ICMA). During his trip they discussed the challenges the people from San Pedro de Marcoris face with climate change, drinking water, sea level rise, flooding, lack of infrastructure, and land use planning, among others.
- Vice Chair Liechty: Attended a conference in Los Angeles on Equity Summit that pushed for climate change in equity issues.
- Mr. Clark: Started the schematic design on a new park in the City of Doral and will be called, Doral Glades Park. It will be the first park to be Water Star and Green Globes certified.
- Mr. Huber: Attended University of Miami's IPCC Conference where they had a panel discussion on issues related to Climate Change. In addition, the Florida Atlantic University (FAU) School of Architecture won a National Endowment for the Arts Our Town Grant entitled "Botanizing the Asphalt of North Beach Village: Integrating Public Art and Resilient Design." The students worked over the last semester developing ideas for a resilient future for North Beach Village located within Fort Lauderdale Beach. The presentations will be on December 10, 2015 at the School of Architecture.
- Mr. Vadiveloo: will attend the 7th Annual Southeast Florida Regional Climate Leadership Summit on December 1-3, 2015 in Key West, FL.
- Mr. Scott: No comments.
- Ms. Whitfield: No comments.
- Chair Alberani: Attended the Open Streets event and it was a great event. She suggested that it would be nice if this event could be ongoing or tied to Riverwalk.

Upcoming Events

- Stand for Sustainability Event on Nov. 29, 2015 At Esplanade Park
- 7th Annual Southeast Florida Regional Climate Leadership Summit on December 1-3, 2015 in Key West, FL.

Items for Next Meeting

The Board agreed to the following presentations for its December 2015 agenda:

- Clothing Recycling Initiative {Moyer}
- Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) {Clark}
- Update on the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TTP) text and its impact on municipal government and League of Cities {Whitfield}

Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Vice Chair Liechty and seconded by Mr. Scott. The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m.